

Interviewed by Joseph Winder

Transcribed by Marilyn Hunting, May 2001

Asael Haws (Asael): I'm Asael Haws. I was born 24 October 1907. I had seven brothers and two sisters. We were a happy family. Of course, my older sister, I don't remember too much about her because she was married and gone by the time I came along. I'm only six weeks older than her oldest daughter. We lived next to the cemetery. We were neighbors to Brother John Farmer, Winfield Hullinger, Arthur Gardner and all the people that surrounded us there [Naples].

In those days everything was done with horses. They plowed the ground, worked it. We farmed and Father raised special corn that he sold for seed. My brothers, they all helped. Father rented farms and put up the hay. We got half of the hay. We had to cut it, rake it, bunch it and haul it and stack it. Then in the fall they would measure it up and then they would divide it according to the desires of whoever we worked for. Father farmed Fred Bingham, Stan Ashton, John N. Davis's farm. They were the main three that he farmed. Of course, in the winter time Father freighted from Vernal to Price.

All of us in those days, most all the houses were dirt-roofed houses. They had good floors in them and they were warm. Very comfortable. We heated them with wood and coal that we hauled from the mountains and the coal mine.

My early days. I remember when I grew up and became a deacon in the church, we had some outstanding brethren in our ward, in the bishopric, at that time and they worked with us and instilled in our hearts to get our fast offerings. In those days we had go around from house to house. You had to take a notebook and your pencil and scales, so you could weigh the flour and write down the pounds of flour that the different families gave. You would tell how many eggs they gave. There were very few that paid money. It would take you most of the day by the time you traveled around and went from house to house. Then when you were through, you had to take your report and go find the bishop and turn it in to the bishop so he would know what you done.

I remember there was one sister that always paid fifty cents. That Sister Harry Southam, that wasn't all. She gave carrots and potatoes besides, but she said, "The bishop needs a little money once in a while." We were happy and proud to do this job because people were kind. They appreciated we deacons.

On every Saturday we would go to the chapel. In our chapel they had those long rugs that run up the aisles. We had to roll up those rugs and take them outside. We had to move the chairs all back, those large wooden benches, and sweep it and sweep the stairways. The brethren would haul the wood and coal and chop the wood and it was our job to bring it in and have it so when the bishop come, he could start the fire Sunday morning. We were a good group. We loved one another very much.

Everybody in our ward was pretty much an equal. Brother Ab Richens was the best off of anyone. He sold his sheep and built him a nice big home. There was only two cars in our ward. Brother Ab had one and Bishop A.G. Goodrich had one. The rest of us, we either walked to church or come in a buggy or wagon. In those days there was only two stoves in the chapel and fires had to be built in them.

The recreation that the young people had at that time was a ward dance once a week. Not

every week, but it changed from Naples to Glines and Maeser, Ashley. I think Davis sometimes joined in that. The older people, I wonder what's become of some of the people that liked to dance. Now all they do is walk and jump up and down. It is a great change.

I was taught to take good care of horses. Horses in those days were the main thing that people depended on. I remember how proud the young men were when they got far enough along to buy a new buggy and have a new buggy horse. How proud they was.

A lot of us wore the same shoes that we worked in. On Sunday we would turn the stove lids upside down on the old cook stove and take an old pair of socks and a little water and take the soot and black our shoes and shine them. We wore what we had; we were a happy community. Then when I was ? I stayed in Naples Ward. That was all one ward at that time. There was no Naples First and Second like it is now.

Father had several pieces of ground and he sold them all and bought a little home across the road from the Central School and moved there. His whole desire was to have a better home for my mother; so she could have running water in the house and a new electric washer. There were only three of us left at home at that time. There was my brother, Morris, and myself and my sister, Lucy. Father made his living by selling "Patman" extracts and spices.

Joe Winder (JW): Was that Watkins Products?

Asael: No, it was Heberling Products. Some of it was real good. It was like everything else. The reason people bought so much of it was because he brought it to their home and they didn't have to bother to go to town. He traveled over on the west side; he traveled all around. But Father's life was teaching the gospel. A lot of people tell me, "I remember your father, he was the one that taught me the gospel. Come and sold me these commodities and then he taught me the gospel." Father's life was entirely in the gospel wherever he was.

He became ill and had several mishaps, one that was critical. He fell off a load of hay and unable to work anymore. He and mother moved to Manti. They worked in the temple till Father passed away. They rented their house in Vernal and rented one down there. They were very happy. Father had diabetes real bad and, of course, it eventually took his life. His great love of the gospel never changed. He loved it very much.

I think of his greatest desire was to see, we, the members of his family, become active in the church, which was a disappointment to him in a lot of ways, because there was only about four out of the ten. There were ten of us and four out of the ten stayed faithful in the church. The rest of them became inactive.

JW: Could you tell us a little about what happened there along during World War 1?

Asael: Well, when World War 1 came on, we were remodeling our old home. We tore the roof and it was a house built in an L shape. They built it all together and it made a real big house. Father hired a carpenter to put a new roof on it. It was rainy season and us younger boys slept in the wheat bin in the old granary, because it was so rainy.

My brothers, Owen and Alvin, were called to go. They both went in the Army. Owen, of course, was used to handling guns and he was right at home. But he had a time that he was prepared for it, for about six weeks. But when Alvin's turn came, they took him right to France and put him on the front lines. They could tell you some interesting stories. It has been so long

ago, I better not get into that. I remember how sad my mother was. Later, my brother, Jess, was called and he went to California. My brother, Marlo, appeared to be kind of rough and indifferent to a lot of things in life, but he saw more what Mother was going through than any of the rest of us. He kept a horse and [would] take mother away from home and take her so she could visit with some of her best friends and get her mind off from her two sons that were gone. Mother used to talk about, you know, I don't know what I would have done if it hadn't've been for Marlo.

Abe and Owen both had sweethearts when they went to war and, of course, when they came back their sweethearts were married. Neither of them married till they were 30 years old. Their whole life had changed. They had picked up the habit of using tobacco, drinking tea and coffee. They were individually different. Jess, however, never changed. 'Course, he wasn't in California very long, about a year and a half, two years, then he came back. But our family was a close family, but I'm sure none of us realized what mother was going through like Marlo did. Marlo was close to Mom and could see some of the things that some of rest of didn't see.

JW: Owen and Alvin came back to Vernal after the war, didn't they, and eventually settled here after they married?

Asael: Well, Alvin, he left here. Owen, he came back and he got a job with a sheep outfit; the Woolley Outfit. He worked for years and years with them. Abe, he had some friends he'd met and he went up in Idaho and Washington and they combined grain. In those days those big combines was pulled by either teams or mules. He drifted away and he was gone a long time before he came back. He came back about 1925, as I remember it, and then lived in Vernal the rest of his life.

JW: Owen bought a farm out near where your old place was, did he not?

Asael: Owen bought a ten-acre piece of ground. He built his home and stayed there and lived there. His children married and all left except Marv. Marv lived with him, after his wife passed away, the two of them lived there. Then Owen went to the rest home where he passed away, here in Vernal.

JW: Could you tell me about your high school days? Do you remember much about when you were in high school?

Asael: Well, I never got to go to high school, only one year. Father moved and went down to Manti, and I went down there and tried to find a job. I wanted to make my home, that was my home with them. But all they had in Manti was those turkey farms. I was a farmer by heart, I loved stock, I loved to farm, it was hard for me. I came back to Vernal and worked for my brother, Lewis. He was running John Reader's ranch. Well, that was ideal, that what I liked.

JW: Did you live right in the home there next to Reader's big home?

Asael: Yes, there was a small house there that Lewis and his family... I worked off and on, 'course. In the winter time I had to find something else to do. Well, in 1925 Lewis left Reader's

place and bought the old Bob Allred [place], over here on the south side of Louis Soderquist's place, and I worked for him. We farmed with Eugene Woodruff. Lewis and Eugene and I herded their sheep out here in these hills east of us. When it was haying time, we would bring them in and put them in the pastures and I would help them hay. I worked there with them all that summer. Mother felt so bad; she wanted me to come and go to school.

Lewis had an accident and lost the sight of his eye. The agreement was he was going to pay me wages. I had broke a horse there; he was raised with the wild bunch and I broke him as a saddle horse. That fall I stayed till everything was gathered. Lewis wasn't able to gather in his crops and he didn't have any money to pay me. I said, "Don't let that worry you." He said, "Well, I agreed to pay you." I said, "I will take old Dutch." He said, "You mean, you'll take him and square our bill?" I said, "Yes." He said, "That is a pretty expensive horse." I said, "That's a good horse." So I took him and took him up to Father's.

There was a guy come and liked him so much. Horses were cheap, he came up to fifty dollars and so I sold him. That is what I had and I went through the ninth grade. I started the first of December that's all the schooling in high school I got. I went through school till school was out that spring. Then Father, like I said, got hurt and I had to go to work. It was one of those things that happen your lifetime.

JW: Could you tell me a little about how you and your wife Ellen met?

Asael: Yes. Well, Ellen Soderquist was the only non-member in our whole ward and, 'course, we grew up together. We all knew one another. In those days young people didn't have cultural halls and places to dance like I said. But she traveled, there were three girls that went to all the dances because they loved to dance. I got thrown off a horse and got hurt and so I never learned to dance. Anyway, I run around with some of the boys. There were three girls, Nelda Wise, Ellen Soderquist, and Oral Anderson, and they were great pals. Rulon Anderson and Lyle Goodrich went with them and that left Ellen without anybody.

I was working for Lou Roberts, and Harold Reader had a beautiful horse and he wanted me to ride it. When I was young, I wasn't afraid of horses. I wasn't a bronc rider, because my neck was too long, but I wasn't afraid to ride them. So he asked me to ride that horse. It was the most beautiful horse you ever saw. It was pure white, long mane and tail, and big brown eyes. But when you looked in his eyes, if you knew anything about a horse, you knew he was mean from the ground up.

So Harold said they wanted me to go down and see these cows that was down here on Jimmy Marshall's place. 'Course, John Reader owned that and you had to go down there. So I saddled up this horse and led him in a big corral. John Reader and Harold was out there and John said, "Why are having him ride that horse for you? You daresn't ride him?" He said, "Oh, Ace can ride him; he will buck, but..." So, I started cinchin' the saddle up; and the trick with a horse is to blow himself up. He will puff up just like a toad, if you don't watch him. Then when you crawl up on top of him, why, that will all go out and then he starts to buck and your saddle will go either way. So, I kicked him in the stomach and, 'course, that took care of that and I cinched him up tight and pulled his head around and crawled up in the saddle.

I put my own bridle on him, I didn't put Harold's bridle on him and I let him set there and you could feel every muscle in his body moving. I expected sooner or later I was going to take a ride and sure enough here it come. But I held him so he couldn't get his head down. You know,

the trick is for a horse to get his head down and then he can get you up out, but I wouldn't let him get his head down. 'Course, he made two or three jumps and I rode him around the corral and I told Harold, "You open your gate," I said, "I'm ready to go."

Well, Ellen Soderquist was home and we had went together off and on several different times. She had been over and stayed all winter with her sister and hadn't been home. I helped build the road from Lapoint into Paradise Park and I had never seen her. I didn't know she was home. So when I came past on this horse, she was out in the yard and she waved at me and I didn't wave back at her. I knew if I waved my hand, I'd probably lay out there in the road on my back. So, I just road straight over on over the road.

She come up there. I was working for my brother, Morris, up there on Reader's place and she come and she said, "You're getting too high-toned, you won't even talk to us, your friends." I said I didn't darest to. She said, "I never did ever see you when you didn't darest do what you had to do." I said, "Well, that is one time you don't know." I said, "That is the most beautiful horse I ever saw, and, well, you didn't look in his eyes, you didn't know."

Well, anyway, she come back and wanted to be my friend. I said, "Well, that won't help us much." And she said, "Well, what do you mean, it won't help us?" I said, "Well, Father don't want me to marry you 'cause you're not a Mormon and your dad don't want you to marry me because I am a Mormon. So," I said, "we are right back where we was before."

"Well," she said, "let me tell you something." I said, "All right, I'm listening." She says, "You're twenty-two, I'm twenty. I'll be twenty-one my next birthday and we don't have to ask anybody." I said, "Well, that's all right as far as that goes, but," I said, "that still don't solve it." She said, "Well, you're a regular lunk-head." I said, "I guess I am." She said, "I'm in love with you. Don't that count?" "Well," I said, "it should, but I'm not caring about getting married."

I said, "I got the best job I ever had." I said, "I can come and go. I got a new car and it's paid for. I've got \$400 I can have a good time on." And I said, "I can't see any sense in getting married." She said, "You mean, you don't like me anymore?" I said, "I didn't say that, but," I said, "I'll tell you what I will do with you." I said, "I'll go with you for a year and if this boyfriend of yours doesn't show up again, why then we'll talk marriage."

So that's what happened to us. I went with her for a year and we got married. Her dad needed help on the ranch, so we went in partners. I've been on this place ever since. That was 1930. That's a long time to stay on one piece of ground. 'Course afterward, they called my son to go on a mission, he baptized his mother, confirmed her and when he come back, he went out to the "Y" and come back and met a girl and they were going through the temple and so we went through with them. We were married in the temple the same time he was and all the kids, we had them all sealed to us. She was the best thing, I've always said, that ever happened to me. She help me change my life. She really got in and studied and understood the gospel. When you have a partner... 'Course, I was taught right. She didn't know, that was her problem.

We always could talk. We never got angry. That was a beautiful thing she taught me, the great love she had. You think about her mother. For three and a half years she laid in the bed and they took care of her. I had to help lift her; they had to keep didies on her and her sister came on Monday and stayed till Saturday and then she would go home and cook and take care of her husband. I learned a lot about what love was all about. Ellen was just that way. Rose Ingram said, "I never heard a man say his wife was ?". I said it was the truth. I said I wouldn't have been anything, if hadn't've been for her.

It was funny, after I married her and started, jobs in the church opened and the brethren in

the ward said if I stayed active, my wife would join the church. I just couldn't see that, but it all worked out just exactly what they said it would.

Brother Collier was the main one. I used to take my horses out there. I was quite particular about my saddle horse, always kept them shod and everything, and the same with my work horses. He never preached the gospel to me. He never, but he'd always tell me what a wonderful mother I had, see, and basically what her and Father done. When they came here, they moved their family around and give them a place so they could get in for the winter. And they lived all winter with ... and he thought that was....

I was out there one time and had a mean horse. He came to shoe him and a Gurr had wrestled a horse, it was a black horse and it was as white as your shirt. They had to tie him up and roll him up on his back to shoe him and George Gurr said Joe, "That kid's got a horse that is worse than this one." Joe come over and he said, "Do you have a mean horse?" I said, "Yes and no." He said, "What do you mean by 'yes and no.' He is either mean or he's not mean." "Well," I said, "Sometimes he's mean and sometimes he's not." I said, "You can't pick up his feet, but I can. If you'd draw on a pasteboard the size of his shoes and go fit his shoes, I'd pick up his feet and you could come in and I'd slide out of the way and you could shoe him and he wouldn't know anything about it." He said, "That's all right for his front feet, what about his hind feet?" I said, "It's his front feet that he doesn't want you around. He won't care."

Well, don't you know, he shod that horse. I don't know, it was thirty-some minutes, that is, after he got the shoe on. He was that way. He was a horse... 'Course, he was old when I broke him. He was six or seven years old. He kicked Arthur. I told Arthur not to go in there. Arthur was close enough that he kicked him with his hocks and sent him flying.

There was a Jew come in from Colorado and he wanted to buy him, and they had a half-brother to him, and I sold him. Horses was going for \$200 a pair and I told him if he would take them two, I'd sell them for a \$180. So I sold him. They were going to have them cultivate corn up there. I was afraid somebody else would get hurt having him, 'cause I had to have lots help in those days. But I never saw him tired. I would get up, hook him up four in the morning and mow with him for four hours and come back and eat my breakfast and he'd just go like that.

JW: Could you tell a little bit of history about this Soderquist home? Do you know who owned the place first and built the home?

Asael: Yes. Carter....Charley Carter's father built that house.

JW: He was Charley Senior.

Asael: They said it was his mother that had it built. I don't know. They built it and they lost it, see. They were in the sheep business and a lot of the things... 'Course I'm not saying they lost... Anyway, N.J. Meagher got a hold of it and so I just assumed from that... He was the one that sold it to Mr. Soderquist in the fall of 1908 and it was built in 1889 or somewhere. It was a nice home, you know. My older brother said they used to have croquet and they had a hedge out in front. I guess it was a real beautiful home. They had hitch-racks all around so guys could come. They said lots of people used to come and play there.

He bought that place for \$5,250. That was in 1908. My wife was born there in 1909. We got married in 1930 and our oldest boy was born in 1931. The others were all three to four years apart, you know. They were all born there except our last daughter, and then was when you had

to start going to the hospital with them.

Our oldest boy got killed with a horse. He was only three and a half years old. 'Course, all these things were some of the things that helped change. See, when we were married, I was inactive. My recommend, I guess, was with Mom and Dad. That was my home, down there. I never did get it. Anyway, we were up at George Baese's in town, 'cause it was so wet. Dr. Christy was our doctor.

I broke this horse and it worked out real good. It was an awful rainy, wet year and Ellen's father came out. We were out here on this bench and he wanted to know if I was all right and I said yeah. I had my slicker and chaps. It was still raining, but I said, "I think I'll let you take this horse in." He had an old horse of mine, a big old roan that was, she just worried to death. She didn't like potterin' along behind them cows and all, you know, and I'd have to go up and turn the leaders back. He said, "Well, I don't know whether I can ride her." I said, "She's all right."

I never once thought about my boy. My oldest boy was the only of our kids that was *my* boy. He was with me wherever I went, whatever I done. Anyway, Grandpa got off at the gate out there and Farrell met him and he never thought, he just picked him up and put him on that horse. He moved them lariats, you know, and that spooked that horse and he went over the top of Mr. Soderquist and he was only three and a half years old, you know, and their feet hung in that stirrup and it bucked around and around and swung him into a manure spreader and they was a shaft that come out about that far, you know, how on the beaters, you know, there's a shaft? Well, that struck him in back of the ear, right back there, and it knocked him loose and he run to the house and Ellen gathered him up and took him up to the doctor and they stayed there at George Baese's. Well, Jess heard about it and Dr. Christy. 'Course, they didn't have penicillin and those things. He said, "I'm worried about infection, getting it off from that manure spreader." He lived about eight days. Dr. Christy came and took care of him and Dr. Christy died in the early part of the night and Farrell died the next morning.

It ruined that horse. You had to sit straight up on her. If you moved either way, why, oh, she bucked, she stampeded. That just scared her. Before that, she was the nicest thing to ride. I took her up finally. I kept her. I knew what she'd do.

Fred Thompson, down here, was an old cowboy and he come over. He had a young horse and he wanted to ride and go up and go down in Greendale and all over there. I said, "You can take Molly." And he said, "Who is Molly?" And I took him out and showed him. I just got new shoes on her. But I said, "There is one thing." He smoked a pipe. I said, "Don't lean over to fix your stirrup or straighten your chaps." I said, "Don't lean over." He took his pipe out and he said, "I was riding horses before you were born." I said, "Well, I've told you." And I said, "I'll tell you one thing, she'll never tire. She can stand all the riding you can stand." Well, he rode her and when he came back, he said, "I've never seen a horse like that, uphill, downhill, hour after hour, day after day."

Well, Abe was with me, and Joe Dodds. We bought Bill Winn's cattle and some of the cattle from Brush Creek got over on Taylor and Joe Dodds got a three-year-old heifer and we went up and got her out. 'Course, we didn't have trucks to haul stuff around. Abe went with me and he wanted to ride her 'cause she was so much nicer to ride than his old horse. It was getting old and stiff. I told him the same thing. He told me what Fred had told. Said he was riding horses before I was born. I said, "That's all right."

We rolled him a smoke and leaned over to light it and she throwed him into a tree, knocked him right out of the saddle. 'Course, she went on down the road and I just let her go. I

went over to the canal, we was close, it was up there in Maeser. I just went over to the canal and filled my big old ? full of water and poured it on him. He got up a-swearin' and said I didn't need to drown him. He had a bad spot on his head and I said, "Well, sit there agin that tree and I'll be back."

I went down and brought her back. I changed saddles with him and rode her home. Finally, I decided I was going to sell her. Doc Eskelson had a mink farm up her, so I led her up there. You never seen a [horse so] nice to lead, beautiful. Had a long mane and tail, light bay, you know. She had lots of spirit, yet she was well-broke. She was nice and I told him I wanted him to butcher her. He said, "I will give you three times what I can pay you for mink feed." "If you don't kill her, say so. I'll take her on up to Colton. I got to see her dead." He said, "You don't trust me?" I said, "I don't trust anybody. I just want you to kill her. I just don't want that on my conscience that she hurts somebody else." So, he shot her while I was there. His helper, he thought I was the craziest man he ever saw. To think, she was just seven years old then. Perfect health. She was a Morgan, Morgan bred. She come out of Gene Daniels' stock from down on the river. But she'd just get her head up and she could just travel. You'd never get tired.

Those are some of the things that happened. What I was going to say then... After we lost our boy, every time a child was born, Ellen would have so many un-sleepable nights and things, worrying about something might happen to our next baby, see?

JW: Now, didn't Mr. Soderquist lose one of his sons, too?

Asael: Well, he had, spinal meningitis; yes, Ernest. See, he's between Elsie and Elma. Arthur's the oldest, then Elma, then Ernest, then Elsie, then Ellen. See, that's the way that is. He died here. Clarence Palmer told me all about him. 'Course, you knew Arthur, all about him.

Well, Arthur and Ellen is the only ones of their family that joined the [LDS] church. They've done the work for Mr. and Mrs. Soderquist. It's up to them, they can have it if... They were good, honest people.

The only thing was, was he was born and raised in Sweden and you went to church whether you wanted to or whether you didn't, see? And he just didn't like the idea. And he talked to Mormons and he thought the Mormons made their kids go to church. And another thing was: so many Mormons wasn't honest. I smiled.

One time they was a man come and he bought Elmer Manwaring's farm. He married a lady that had a whole lot of kids, but he was a real good Mormon. I can't think of his name. Anyway, he came over here and he wanted to buy some hay and that was during the Depression. Well, you know what? Hay was five dollars a ton. I said, "Yes, you can have what hay you want." And he said, "Well, Asael, all I got's my milk check and I'll divide it with you. It will be ten or fifteen a month." I said, "That's good enough." So, after he was gone, why, we'd sold some hay to Hampton. You remember the guy? 'Course, he wasn't a Mormon and Grandpa said, "Well, you take the Mormon and I'll take him." That's the way we divided. I said, "Okay." Well, it came and this brother over here, he paid every bit of it. And Hampton never did pay. That sure hurt Mr. Soderquist, because he had the concept that... I told him, I said, "Well, Mormons is no different than anybody else. Some of them are honest and some of them aren't. But," I said, "they oughta be better because they're taught better." It was quite a thing. He didn't realize that Mormons studied and read and read the Bible and all these other books along with it.

Before he died, I sat up with him until twelve, then my wife or her sister would come and

sit up with him when he got real bad. We had to have oxygen for him and he said, "Asael, you and Ellen is just running up a big bill on this oxygen and you're the guys that'll have to pay for it," he says. "Nobody else will." "Well," I said, "don't worry about it." I said, "It don't amount to very much anyway." Oxygen wasn't very expensive then. I said, "It helps you, so why..." He said, "Let me tell you something. I know I'm going to die." He was, you could tell. He said, "We've been through a lot. You've listened to Ellen and her mother and sold the cows after you'd worked so hard to build them up." I was disappointed. I said, "Yes, that was a mistake, but," I said, "it was you they was worried about. They thought you'd get hurt or killed." He'd go up and down the mountain in that old truck we had. I said, "It was you." He said, "That's the reason you sold them?" I said, "Yeah. I had just what I wanted."

We had range cows and [we'd] send them up there and not have to bother with them till next fall. And then I said, "I had ten good milk cows here at home. The old place was just getting so I could make it. But," I said, "I couldn't make them understand that selling the cows was the thing to do." He said, "I want to tell you something. You know, I didn't believe in any religion." I said, "Yeah, but," I said, "You believed in some whether you knew it or not." He said, "Like what?" "Like being honest and fair," I said. "You're as good as your bond if you said you'd do something." I said, "That's a big part of religion, no matter what." He said, "Well, let me tell you something. I have watched you become active in the church. There is nothing in the Mormon Church that will hurt you."

I thought that was pretty nice of him. He died shortly after that. He was a grand old man in his way. He worked hard. It was kind of interesting. She had to have her garden and she had to go to town once a week. No matter what it was, snow, mud, or rain, and sometimes my wife had to take the car and take her. You know, sometimes she was heavy with child and that was Grandma Sody's life. The rest of them, they didn't realize what Ellen went through, but Grandpa wouldn't go with her because she would visit, see, and a lot of times she would spend half, three-quarters, or a whole hour just visiting with them. My wife would come home and she'd be... Of course, I'd get the supper and we'd get the chores done up and get the kids to bed. A lot of times they wouldn't get back till ten or eleven at night. But it was their way.

What I was going to say, everybody thought he was so hard-boiled and that. Well, the thing was, the man was the boss. But with her, he said, "She's just like her mother. She wants a garden. We've argued and got mad and it don't do us any good. It is the same thing. I just said, 'Go ahead and raise your garden.'" So, I thought that was pretty nice. They were hard workers. The thing of it was with Grandma Sody, she took great pride in her stuff. It had to be the best when she sold it, no matter what it was.

JW: When was it your wife passed away?

Asael: She passed away in January 1988. It seems like it's ten years, but it won't be two years till this coming January.

You see, what happened was, when he made his will, I had a written lease and we had to take care of Ellen's mother as long as she lived and half of the proceeds should take care of her and take care of her burial and his burial, see, and all the other things. But she lived a long time. See, Ellen's father was eleven years older than her mother. The last three years of her life, she didn't know anyone. Three and a half years. She got so poor and so thin... But the love they had... Now, Arthur and Elsie, they didn't realize a thing about any of that.

JW: 'Course, Arthur was down in Price for a long time, and when he moved up here, he was over on the other corner.

Asael: Well, he was here when his mother died. He was here. He was upset because Ellen's father gave Ellen and I this top bench, ninety-six acres, with this agreement that we take care of her mother as long as she lived, see? The rest of them got the one hundred acres down below, see. That's how that all worked out, see. Yes, after we sold the cows and they called my son on a mission, why I had to go to work. I couldn't... Those ten milk cows... We eat about what they made for us. So, I went and signed up and was head custodian to the new Jr. High School. I was up there about eighteen years. So, I got my kids, three of them went through, well, two of them graduated from college and the third one, she got married. Remember when Noah Rodeback's daughter got killed? I think that's the reason my daughter got married. She just was so scared and so afraid and she loved Jim so much. He come and lived part of a summer with us. He'd been on a mission and came back.

JW: John Harworth?

Asael: Yeah, John Harworth. We call him Jim. He worked for REA, you know.

JW: I expect he's still with REA up in Washington, isn't he? Is it Oregon or Washington?

Asael: I don't know. I couldn't tell you. We got a dirty deal on that from Utah Power and Light. See, Utah Power and Light wasn't interested in any of us down in here. Mr. Soderquist, we went and tried to get Utah Power and Light. They wanted \$600 just to run it to that corner over there and we had to get the poles, put the cross-arms on and get the big cedar posts on each side, the wire, dig, set it all up, see, and give them \$600. Well, that was Depression time, why \$600... Well, REA come around, see, and the reason we built this electric home was because of REA. If you built an electric home, you got a lot cheaper rate. Well, you don't with Utah Power and Light. They never even held a meeting. That was all political stuff. Took the stuff over to Roosevelt. No, that was a dirty deal; that was politics at its best.

JW: The REA has sure done a lot for this side of town.

Asael: Why, Davis, Naples, people clear up to Brush Creek, those guys over on Brush Creek, why, Utah Power and Light, they never reached... That's what I can't see. I can't see our government... Don't dig out some of these. Now look what it is, look what it is now US West can charge you. The phone bills are the same way. That's another dirty deal. Imagine having to pay, like you did, thirty or forty dollars a month and it's worth it to have it hang there. When the wife was sick and the kids could call... I remember when it was two, three, or four dollars a month.

JW: I remember our old number. Of course, we had a phone before I was born because Mr. Samuels had that farm just south of us and Cliff Samuels lived there.